(b) the amount sanctioned for each of the project;

(c) the name of the projects which are already completed and the amount spent so far on each of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to promote tourism in hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (c) During the first four years of the 8th Plan, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned 34 projects amounting to Rs. 498.39 lakhs to Government of Uttar Pradesh. The implementation of the projects is the responsibility of the State Government. The construction projects are at various stages of completion by the State Government.

(d) The Central Department of Tourism has set up a task force for the development of tourism in the Himalayan region which includes hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh.

*[English]*

**Electrification of Railway Routes**

2181. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:
DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to take up electrification of Ranaghat-Gede, Ranaghat-Bongaon, Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether these proposals are being sent to the Planning Commission for sanction;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon sections will be taken up in phases. There is however, no proposal to electrify Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections.

(b) and (c) The proposals for electrification of Ranaghat-Gede and Ranaghat-Bongaon sections will be sent to the Planning Commission for clearance before execution of the work.

(d) Due to constraint of resources, there is no proposal to electrify Krishnanagar-Lalgola and Barasat-Hasnabad sections.

**Requirement of Additional Platforms at Chennai**

2182. SHRI K. KANDASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the urgent need for having two or three more platforms at Chennai Central Railway Station for the suburban trains; and

(b) if so, the time by which above proposal is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The available platforms are by the large adequate to cater to the present level of handling of Suburban traffic at Chennai Central Railway Station. However, to cater to the future growth in Suburban traffic provision of an additional platform at Channai is a sanctioned work.

**Charges for Telephone Call**

2183. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase charges for a telephone call made from a fixed telephone to cellular phone in the country except four metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the STD charges will have to be paid for making a call to a mobile telephone in all parts of the country except metropolitan cities whereas only one rupee per call is charged presently; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The charges have been fixed for the first time for calls from Fixed Network (PSTN) to the Cellular Network licenced for operating in Telecom Circles. Since there was no Tariff earlier for this service, question of increase in charges does not arise.

(b) Copy of the order is enclosed as statement.

(c) and (d) Unit calls will be on a fixed Pulse Rate for all such calls, within a Circle.

**Statement**

Government of India
Ministry of Communications Department of Telecommunications

Sanchar Bhavan,
20 Ashok Road,
New Delhi-110001

No. 106-21/96-PHC. Dated, the 29th January, 1997.

To

All CGMs Telecom Circles/
Telephone Districts,
CGM, MTNL, New Delhi/Mumbai.

Subject:— Tariff for calls originated from fixed network (PSTN) to the cellular networks licensed to operate in Telecom Circles.